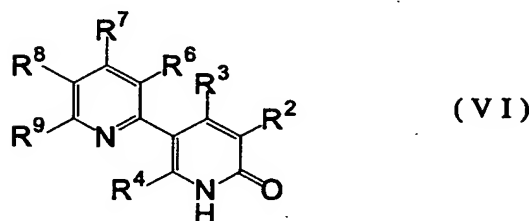


Claims

1. A production method of a 5-(2'-pyridyl)-2-pyridone derivative represented by the formula (VI)



5 wherein

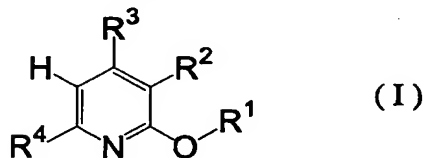
R², R³ and R⁴

are each a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s), an aryl group optionally having substituent(s), an alkoxyl group optionally having substituent(s) or an aryloxy group optionally having substituent(s), or R² and R³ optionally form, together with a carbon atom bonded thereto, a ring optionally having substituent(s), and

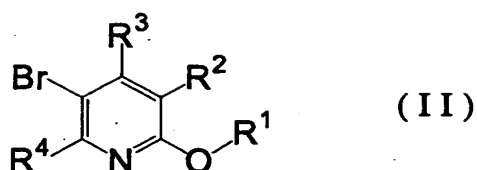
R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ and R⁹

are each a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) or an aryl group optionally having substituent(s), or R⁶ and R⁷, R⁷ and R⁸, or R⁸ and R⁹ optionally form, together with a carbon atom bonded thereto, a ring optionally having substituent(s),

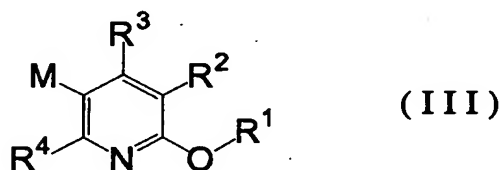
20 which comprises reacting a pyridine derivative represented by the formula (I)



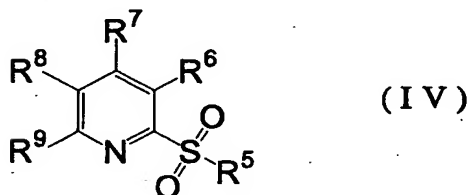
wherein R¹ is an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s) or an aryl group optionally having substituent(s), and R², R³ and R⁴ are as defined above, with a brominating agent to give a 5-bromopyridine derivative represented by the formula (II)



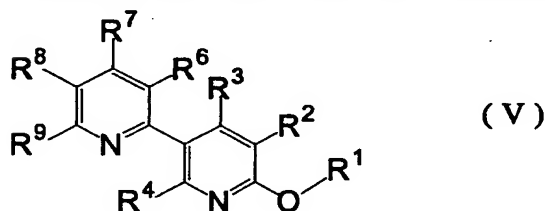
wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are as defined above, reacting the
 obtained 5-bromopyridine derivative (II) with a metallizing
 agent to give an organometallic compound represented by the
 5 formula (III)



wherein M is a metal atom belonging to group 1 or 2 of the
 periodic table, and R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are as defined above,
 reacting the obtained organometallic compound (III) with a 2-
 10 sulfonylpyridine derivative represented by the formula (IV)



wherein R⁵ is an alkyl group optionally having substituent(s)
 or an aryl group optionally having substituent(s), and R⁶, R⁷,
 R⁸ and R⁹ are as defined above, to give a 6-alkoxy-3,2'-
 15 bipyridine derivative represented by the formula (V)



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸ and R⁹ are as defined above,
 and hydrolyzing the obtained 6-alkoxy-3,2'-bipyridine
 20 derivative (V).

2. The production method of claim 1, wherein the

organometallic compound is a compound of the formula (III)
wherein M is a lithium atom or a magnesium atom.

3. The production method of claim 1 or 2, wherein, in the
5 formula (VI), R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 and R^9 are each a hydrogen
atom.